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## OLR Bill Analysis

### sSB 366

#### ***AN ACT REQUIRING LICENSED SOCIAL WORKERS, COUNSELORS AND THERAPISTS TO COMPLETE CONTINUING EDUCATION COURSE WORK IN CULTURAL COMPETENCY.***

#### **SUMMARY:**

This bill requires Department of Public Health (DPH)-licensed social workers, professional counselors, alcohol and drug counselors, and marriage and family therapists to complete one contact hour (i.e., at least 50 minutes) of continuing education coursework in cultural competency during each license registration period. (A registration period is the 12-month period for which a license is renewed.)

DPH regulations require each of these professions to complete at least 15 contact hours of continuing education during each registration period, except for alcohol and drug counselors, who must complete at least 20 contact hours.

The bill applies to all license registration periods starting on and after October 1, 2013. Thus, it appears that a person who applies for a license renewal between October 1, 2013 and October 1, 2014 would have less than one year to meet the new requirement.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2013

#### **COMMITTEE ACTION**

Public Health Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 28 Nay 0 (04/01/2013)